

The National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise

Organization Description

The National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise (NCNE) was founded in 1981 by Robert L. Woodson, Sr. for the purpose of providing technical assistance and training to grassroots leaders who have the ability to successfully address the problems of their communities. The National Center has provided capacity-building services to leaders of more than 1900 organizations in 39 states.

Project Description

NCNE's capacity-building initiative will develop the resources of grass-roots and faith-based and community organizations and strengthen their infrastructure so they in turn can expand their influences and services to address problems of low-income DC residents.

Geographic Scope of Project

Faith-based and community organizations in Wards 7 and 8 in the District of Columbia.

Partnering Organizations

The NCNE is partnering with the Marcus Foundation to provide matching funds for the project.

Sub-Awards

NCNE will offer approximately \$250,000 in sub-awards to up to 20 faith-based and community organizations. The sub-awards will range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Project Objectives

- 1. Identify faith-based and community organizations that demonstrate the ability to address problems such as family disintegration, elders-in-need, atrisk youth, low academic performances and high school dropout rates, homelessness, and substance abuse:
- Provide training and technical assistance to strengthen the capacities of faith-based and community organizations;
- Increase faith-based and community organizations' ability to become self-sustaining;
- Equip faith-based and community organizations to expand the reach and quality of their services;
- Encourage the organizations to work together in a network;
- Evaluate the results of the program and present findings as a model for other locales.

Project Strategies

- Utilize its Hands Across D.C.
 Network, a collaboration of nine faith-based and community organizations, to identify organizations with demonstrated ability to service individuals and families in Wards 7 & 8;
- Assist each organization in developing an organizational assessment;
- Provide:
 - Individual mentoring of the director and senior staff at each organization;

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- —Hands-on services, individualized and group working sessions, and tools that assist each group with building its organizational and programmatic capacity;
- —Products and outreach services that keep each organization updated on best practices and developments related to its work.

Grant Award Amount \$498,403

